METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM STORAGE DEVICE FOR ENABLING THE READING OF DATA FROM A NAMED PIPE WHILE MINIMIZING THE USE OF SYSTEM RESOURCES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method, apparatus and program storage device for enabling the reading of data from a named pipe by a reader process while minimizing the use of system resources in an information handling system in which client and reader processes write data to and read data from a named pipe by issuing function calls to an operating system. A first reader process creates a named pipe if it does not already exist and issues a read function call to the operating system specifying the named pipe to attempt to read data from the pipe. If the read operation is successful, the first reader process repeats the step of issuing the read function call. Otherwise, the first reader process issues an activate-on-receipt function call to the operating system, specifying the named pipe, a new reader process to be activated upon the receipt of data by the named pipe and, optionally, data being passed from the first reader process to the new reader process, and then terminates. The operating system activates the new reader process in response to the activate-on-receipt function call upon the receipt of data by the named pipe. Typically, the new reader process is a new instantiation of the first reader process that upon being activated performs the same steps as the first reader process.